



SPW

Attorney Docket No. 22688.00

Customer No. 37833

Confirmation No. 5396

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE *PATENT* APPLICATION OF:

APPLICANT : **RYAN A. DODD *et al.***

APPL. NO. : **10/705,535**

ART UNIT : **2166**

FILED : **November 12, 2003**

EXAMINER : **WOO, ISAAC**

TITLED : **METHOD, COMPUTER USEABLE MEDIUM, AND SYSTEM FOR
ENTERPRISE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In the Office Action dated July 5, 2006, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 prior to an examination on the merits of the above-identified application. The separate inventions identified by the Examiner are as follows:

- I.. Claims 1-38, drawn to a method, computer readable medium and system for enterprise resource management (ERM).
- II. Claims 39-45, drawn to ERM software.
- III. Claims 46-57, drawn to a database.

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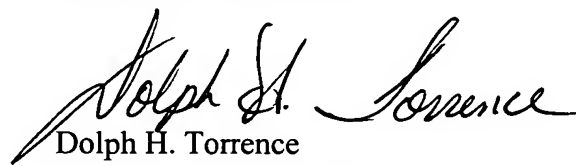
The Examiner states that the inventions of Groups I, II and III are related as subcombinations disclosed as being useable together in a single combination. The Examiner asserts that the subcombinations are distinct from each other and sets forth examples to show that they may be separately usable.

In compliance with the Examiner's restriction requirement, Applicant provisionally elects with traverse for further prosecution the invention defined by Claims 1-38 (designated as Invention I).

Notwithstanding the propriety of the restriction requirement for examination purposes, Applicants contend that they should be entitled to a consideration of a reasonable number of related embodiments falling within the scope of a generic inventive concept. Moreover, it would appear that a search and examination of the entire application could be accomplished without a serious burden on the Examiner since the multiple embodiments identified of record would seemingly encompass a common field of search.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the restriction requirement and issue an action on the merits of the claimed embodiments presently in the application. Alternatively, should the Examiner maintain the requirement, Applicant awaits a complete action on the merits of the elected subject matter.

Respectfully submitted,



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